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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 4405
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RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0527
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 8304
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RUEHKS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 9385
RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHENYANG PRIORITY 0365
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
RUAGAAA/COMUSKOREA SEOUL KOR PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 005791

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/04/2016
TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [PGOV](#) [JA](#) [RU](#)
SUBJECT: JAPAN AND RUSSIA TO RE-START FISHNG TALKS

REF: A. TOKYO 04740

[1](#)B. TOKYO 04665

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor W. Michael Meserve. Reason
s 1.4 (B) (D)

[1](#)1. (C) MOFA Russia Division Principal Deputy Director Kazuhiko Nakamura confirmed October 4 Japanese media reports that Russia and Japan will soon restart discussions on a fishing safety agreement for ships operating in waters near the disputed Northern Territories. According to Nakamura, the talks have taken on more importance in the wake of the August 16 incident in which a Russian Coast Guard vessel fired gunshots at a Japanese fishing boat, killing one crewmember.

[1](#)2. (C) Russian authorities released the fishing boat captain October 3. Nakamura, who interviewed the skipper immediately after his release, refused to dispute the official Russian version that claims that the Japanese boat's crew had been fishing illegally in Russian-claimed waters.
DONOVAN